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D. THE DOUBLE PATENTING REJECTIONS

Applicants note that the Examiner's rejections of claims 1-18 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting are provisional. Therefore, Applicants will address the Examiner's arguments, upon indication of otherwise allowable subject matter.

Conclusion

Claims 1, 6 and 12 have been amended, claims 10 and 11 have been canceled, and claims 40-58 have been withdrawn. No new matter has been added by way these amendments and it is Applicants' understanding that additional searches would not be required in light of the previous searches. Entry of the claim amendments and allowance of the presently presented claims is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that further discussion of any remaining issues would advance the prosecution, he or she is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date

September 2, 2005

By

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